

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /066 W
-----111901Z 008282 /53

R 111837Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4610
INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00556

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, GW
SUBJECT: CSCE/CBM'S: U.S. DEMARCHE; FRG POSITION ON
MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS UNCERTAIN

REFS: (A) STATE 002322; (B) USNATO 0012;
(C) BONN 00036; (D) BONN 00050

BEGIN SUMMARY: WHILE TAKING THE POINT THAT THE
U.S. DEMARCHE IN MOSCOW DID NOT CONSTITUTE NEW CBM
PROPOSALS, THE FONOFF OFFICIAL NEVERTHELESS EXPRESSED
"REGRET" THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT CONSULTED BEFOREHAND IN
NATO. THE OFFICIAL ALSO ADVISED US THAT THE PREVIOUSLY
AGREED FRG WORKING-LEVEL POSITION AGAINST PRIOR NOTI-
FICATION OF MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS WAS NOW UNDER
REVIEW. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JAN 11 WE MET WITH THE FONOFF CSCE/CBM WORKING-
LEVEL OFFICIAL WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED "UNHAPPI-
NESS" (REF D) WITH THE U.S. DEMARCHE TO THE SOVIETS
TO CONVEY THE CONTENTS OF REF A. WE ALSO MADE THE POINT
THAT THE FRG MISSION IN BRUSSELS HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON THE
DEMARCHE (REF B) AND ASKED WHETHER THIS INFORMATION HAD
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BEEN REPORTED TO THE FONOFF. THE OFFICIAL REPEATED THAT
HIS INFORMATION WAS BASED ON A MOSCOW TELEGRAM AND THAT
THE FRG MISSION HAD NOT MADE A REPORT. BEFORE LEAVING
THE SUBJECT, THE OFFICIAL EXPRESSED "REGRET" --
"OBJECTION" WOULD BE TOO STRONG A WORD HE SAID -- THAT,
EVEN THOUGH THE U.S. DEMARCHE DID NOT CONSTITUTE NEW
PROPOSALS FOR CBM'S, IT STILL WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER TO

CONSULT TOGETHER ABOUT SUCH MATTERS BEFOREHAND IN NATO
PRIOR TO UNDERTAKING BILATERAL ACTIONS.

2. TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS,
THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE FRG WORKING-LEVEL POSITION
AGAINST PRIOR NOTIFICATION NOW APPEARED TO BE COMING
UNSTUCK (REF C). A CERTAIN FACTION IN THE DEFENSE
MINISTRY, THE OFFICIAL CONTINUED, HAD REOPENED THE ISSUE
OF WHETHER PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MOVEMENTS MIGHT NOT BE
IN THE FRG INTEREST AFTER ALL. THIS FACTION WAS WRITING
A PAPER TO JUSTIFY ITS POSITION, WHICH MEANT THAT THE
POSITION PAPER PREVIOUSLY PREPARED FOR LEBER AND GENSCHER
TO REVIEW WAS CURRENTLY IN LIMBO. THE OFFICIAL WAS HOPE-
FUL THAT THE FRG COULD AGREE UPON A COORDINATED
POSITION PRIOR TO THE JANUARY 21 POLADS MEETING, BUT HE
WAS NOT SANGUINE THAT FMOD WOULD COMPLETE ITS WORK BY
THAT TIME.

3. WHEN PRESSED FOR DETAILS ABOUT WHAT MOVEMENTS SHOULD
BE NOTIFIED, THE OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT CERTAIN MOVE-
MENTS WHICH MET SPECIFIC CONDITIONS SHOULD BE NOTIFIED.
HE THEN PROVIDED SOME NEGATIVE CRITERIA FOR WHICH NO
PRIOR NOTIFICATION WOULD BE REQUIRED, AS WITH AIR OR SEA
MOVEMENTS. THE OFFICIAL ALSO SAID THE FRG CONCEPT FOR
PRIOR NOTIFICATION HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH MOVEMENTS
ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS OR MOVEMENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00556

IN THE VICINITY OF FRONTIERS.

4. IN CONCLUSION, THE OFFICIAL EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE WEST COULD GAIN ADVANTAGES BY TAKING INITIATIVES AT BELGRADE ON THIS PARTICULAR CBM. HE NOTED THAT PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MOVEMENTS SHOULD APPLY TO ALL OF EUROPE, INCLUDING EUROPEAN RUSSIA, AND THAT THE U.S. WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY MOVEMENTS, IF ANY, IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES. ANOTHER FEATURE OF SUCH NOTIFICATIONS WHICH HE CONSIDERED IMPORTANT WAS THEIR VOLUNTARY CHARACTER. HE FELT THAT ACCEPTANCE OF OBLIGATORY NOTIFICATION MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

5. COMMENT: AS U.S. NATO POINTED OUT IN REF B, THE FRG IS GENERALLY QUITE SENSITIVE ABOUT THE NEED FOR FULL CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS AFFECTING ALLIED SECURITY. THE GERMANS MIGHT ALSO FEEL WE ARE EXPENDING AMMO BILATERALLY WHICH MIGHT BETTER BE SAVED FOR BELGRADE.

IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT TUGGING AND HAULING IN BONN ON MOVEMENTS, IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHERE THE WORKING-LEVEL
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WILL COME OUT AND WHAT THE MINISTERS WILL APPROVE. IT IS CLEAR THE FONOFF WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE ON CBM'S AT THE JANUARY 21 MEETING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, MILITARY EXERCISES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY CAPABILITIES, INFORMATION CONTROL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN00556
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770010-0876
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770164/aaaacecg.tel
Line Count: 148
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cc212fdb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 2322, 77 BONN 36, 77 BONN 50
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3628639
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE/CBM'S: U.S. DEMARCHE; FRG POSITION ON MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS UNCERTAIN
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, GE, US, UR, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cc212fdb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009